

Atty Docket No. 8564-000042/US
GE Case No. 24GA-6001

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if several names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FACILITATING RECOVERY OF NUCLEAR FUEL FROM A FUEL POOL, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119 (a)-(d) or (f) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below, and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) | PRIORITY NOT CLAIMED | CERTIFIED COPY ATTACHED |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| U.S. PARENT APPLICATION OR PCT PARENT NUMBER | PARENT FILING DATE (day, month, year) | STATUS (patent and number, pending, abandoned) |
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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| APPLICATION NUMBER(S) | FILING DATE (day, month, year) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| | |
| | |

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint Gary D. Yacura (Reg. No. 35,4516), Matthew J. Lattig (Reg. No. 45,274), Ronald E. Myrick (Reg. No. 26,315), Henry J. Policinski, (Reg. No. 26,621) Jay L. Chaskin, (Reg. No. 24,030), James W. Mitchell (Reg. No. 25,602), Frank A. Landgraff (Reg. No. 36,853) and James E. McGinness (Reg. No. 33,260), jointly, and each of them severally, my/our attorney(s) or agents(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls in connection with this application be addressed to Hamess, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., Customer No. **33727**, at Phone No. 703/390-3030; Fax No. 703/390-3020.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, statements were made with the knowledge that willfully false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001 and that all such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first joint inventor: **DAVID JOSEPH KROPACZEK**

Inventor's signature:  Date: 10/3/2003
David Joseph KROPACZEK

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 637 Robert E. Lee Drive, Wilmington, NC 28412

Full name of second joint inventor: **STEVEN BARRY SUTTON**

Inventor's signature:  Date: 10/3/2003
Steven Barry SUTTON

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 6421 Sentry Oaks Drive, Wilmington, NC 28409

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Full name of third joint inventor: **CHRISTIAN CARLOS OYARZUN**

Inventor's signature:  Date: 10/03/2003
Christian Carlos OYARZUN

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 341-11 South College Road #2025, Wilmington, NC 28403

Full name of fourth joint inventor: **CAREY REID MERRITT**

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Carey Reid MERRITT

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 3523 Violet Court, Wilmington, NC 28409

Full name of fifth joint inventor: **JOHN DEAN FULLER**

Inventor's signature:  Date: 10/13/03
John Dean FULLER

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 8700 Thornblade Circle, Wilmington, NC 28411

Full name of third joint inventor: **CHRISTIAN CARLOS OYARZUN**

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Christian Carlos OYARZUN

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 341-11 South College Road #2025, Wilmington, NC 28403

Full name of fourth joint inventor: **CAREY REID MERRITT**

Inventor's signature: Carey Reid Merritt Date: 10/3/03
Carey Reid MERRITT

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 3523 Violet Court, Wilmington, NC 28409

Full name of fifth joint inventor: **JOHN DEAN FULLER**

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
John Dean FULLER


Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 8700 Thornblade Circle, Wilmington, NC 28411

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Full name of sixth joint inventor: **WILLIAM EARL RUSSELL II**

Inventor's signature: 

William Earl RUSSELL II

Date: 10/3/2003

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 1044 Arboretum Drive; Wilmington, NC 28405

Full name of seventh joint inventor: **MARGARET ESTELLE HARDING**

Inventor's signature: 

Margaret Estelle HARDING

Date: 10/3/03

Residence: Wilmington, NC

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 2717 Warlick Drive, Wilmington, NC 28409